GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:99
ANSWERED ON:23.10.2008
FREIGHT PERFORMANCE OF RAILWAYS
Prasad Shri Hari Kewal;Rana Shri Kashi Ram

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage increase in revenue from freight traffic by Indian Railways during the last three years;

(b) the extent to which the demand for freight traffic was met by the Railways during the last three years;

(c) whether the growth rate in the year 2006-07 in term of freight loading had shown a declining trend over the previous year;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Railways in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken to augment the traffic facility to meet the pace of development in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 99 BY SHRI KASHIRAM RANA AND SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 23.10.2008 REGARDING FREIGHT PERFORMANCE OF RAILWAYS.

(a): The percentage increase in revenue from freight traffic by the Railways during the last three years is as under:-

YEAR	EARNINGS (IN CRORES OF Rs.)	PERCENTAGE INCREASE (OVER PREVIOUS YEAR)
2005-06	36287	17.90
2006-07	41717	14.96
2007-08	47435	13.71

(b): The loading targets on Indian railways are fixed after getting inputs from various Ministries/Planning Commission on the projected growth in individual sectors and their projected movement by rail. This is reflected in the budgeted targets. The projected demands for the year 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 which were reflected in the Budget targets, were exceeded in all the three years. The freight traffic carried by Indian railways during the last three years was 2190.18 million tones as against the total budgeted target of 2146 million tones.

(c)&(d): There was a marginal decline in growth from 10.69% in 2005-06 to 9.23% in 2006-07. These variations are acceptable. Indian Railways, however, loaded 728.77 million tones as against the target of 624 million tones set for the last year of 10th Plan, i.e., 2006-07 registering a growth of 16.79% over the projections.

(e): Railway is taking various steps to enhance the line capacity works, like construction of new lines, gauge conversion works, doubling, improvement in signaling & telecommunication, Electrification, increase number of wagons with enhanced wagon loading capacity and construction of Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC), etc. to augment the freight traffic.